

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 ACDA-10 L-02 PM-03 INR-10 DODE-00

NSC-07 CIAE-00 DRC-01 RSC-01 SAM-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 NEA-06 AF-04 NSAE-00 OMB-01 EB-03 TRSE-00

IO-03 /077 W

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O P 231129Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1290

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY

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S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 03 BONN 04623

LIMDIS

VIENNA FOR MBFR DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, NATO, UK, GW, US

SUBJECT: CALLAGHAN VISIT TO BONN--MARCH 21, 22

BEGIN SUMMARY: MAIN TOPIC OF CALLAGHAN'S DISCUSSIONS IN
BONN WAS US/EC CONSULTATIONS. OUR SOURCES SAY CALLAGHAN
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VOICED SUPPORT FOR GERMAN PROPOSALS TO IMPROVE CONSULTA-
TIONS BUT UNDERLINED BILATERAL CONNECTION TO US AND
BRITISH READINESS, AT A CERTAIN POINT, TO DROP SEARCH
FOR "COMMUNITY SOLUTION" AND TO SEEK TO SOLVE CONSULTA-
TION PROBLEM ESSENTIALLY BILATERALLY WITH THE US.

CONFUSED DISCUSSION ENSUED REGARDING DEGREE OF COORDINATION NECESSARY BEFORE DELIVERY OF EC AIDE MEMOIRE TO ARAB STATES. CALLAGHAN SAID "EC RENEGOTIATION" WOULD PROCEED IN INTERNAL COMMUNITY INSTITUTIONS AND MEMBERSHIP ISSUE WOULD NOT BE RAISED UNLESS SATISFACTORY SOLUTIONS APPEARED TO BE IMPOSSIBLE. CALLAGHAN SHED NO NEW LIGHT ON SPECIFIC BRITISH DEMANDS BUT PREDICTED "HOT SUMMER OF NEGOTIATIONS." CALLAGHAN AND SCHEEL PARTICULARLY EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF NATO; CALLAGHAN FAVORED COMMEMORATIVE NATO ANNIVERSARY BY SIGNATURE OF ATLANTIC DECLARATION AT FOREIGN MINISTERS' LEVEL IN APRIL. GERMANS AND OTHER EUROPEANS HERE ARE EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER "LOOMING DANGERS TO FUTURE EXISTENCE OF COMMUNITY." END SUMMARY.

1. RELIABLE FONOFF SOURCE HAS BRIEFED US ON FOREIGN SECRETARY CALLAGHAN'S MARCH 21-22 VISIT TO BONN IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE ROUGHLY SEMIANNUAL ANGLO-GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTER CONSULTATIONS. CALLAGHAN NOTED THAT HIS FIRST TRIP ABROAD AS FOREIGN SECRETARY WAS TAKING PLACE IN CAPITAL OF EC PRESIDENCY. CALLAGHAN SAW CHANCELLOR BRANDT (TETE-A-TETE) AND FINANCE MINISTER SCHMIDT (FOR A WORKING BREAKFAST) BESIDES HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SCHEEL. THE THREE MAIN SUBJECTS DISCUSSED, REVIEWED BELOW, WERE US/EUROPEAN CONSULTATIONS, EC RENEGOTIATION AND NATO. OUR SOURCE SAYS THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION OF SECURITY MATTERS SUCH AS MBFR, CSCE AND SALT, OR OF EUROPEAN DEFENSE OR BRITISH DEFENSE SPENDING.

2. US/EC CONSULTATIONS

THE SCHEEL/CALLAGHAN MEETING WAS DOMINATED BY THIS TOPIC. SCHEEL SAID IT WAS ESSENTIAL TO DEVELOP AMONG THE NINE SOME TYPE OF CONSULTATION MECHANISM WHICH WOULD MEET THE JUSTIFIED AMERICAN INTERESTS--I.E., THAT WOULD FACILITATE EFFECTIVE CONSULTATION ON SUBJECTS WHERE THERE ARE CLEARLY IMPORTANT US INTERESTS. SCHEEL
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SAID SUCH A CONSULTATIVE MECHANISM WOULD BE NECESSARY SO THAT THE EUROPEANS COULD TAKE THE US VIEWS INTO CONSIDERATION BEFORE TAKING THEIR FINAL DECISIONS. IN THIS CONNECTION, SCHEEL OUTLINED SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVED US/EC CONSULTATIONS, AS REPORTED IN BONN 4120-EXDIS (NOTAL).

3. CALLAGHAN SAID HE COULDN'T AGREE MORE WITH THE GERMANS' AIM AND COULD FULLY SUPPORT THE SPECIFIC GERMAN PROPOSALS. CALLAGHAN MADE THE STRONG PERSONAL POINT THAT HE "WOULD RESERVE THE RIGHT TO TALK TO THE US ABOUT EVERYTHING AND ANYTHING." CALLAGHAN SAID THE UK WOULD SUPPORT A "COMMUNITY SOLUTION" TO THE CONSULTATION PROBLEM, INCLUDING RIGHT TO CONSULT BILATERALLY

DURING THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE'S CONSENSUS BUILDING
PROCESS. HOWEVER, SHOULD A COMMUNITY SOLUTION TO THE
CONSULTATION PROBLEM PROVE IMPOSSIBLE, THEN AT A
CERTAIN POINT, THE BRITISH WOULD BE PREPARED SIMPLY TO
CONSULT BILATERALLY WITH THE US ON SUCH ISSUES AND TO
DEFER A COMMUNITY SOLUTION. SCHEEL EMPHASIZED THAT THE

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O P 231129Z MAR 74
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
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INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
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GERMANS ALSO HAVE AND WOULD CONTINUE TO DISCUSS
POLITICAL COOPERATION TOPICS BILATERALLY WITH THE US.
BUT OUR SOURCE STRESSED THE GERMAN POSITION THAT AN
EFFECTIVE US/EC CONSULTATION MECHANISM, AS COMPLIMENTED
BY BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS, WAS A VERY IMPORTANT GOAL FOR
THE FRG.

4. WE UNDERSTAND THAT SCHEEL AND CALLAGHAN ALSO
DISCUSSED THE CONSULTATION ISSUE IN THE CONTEXT OF THE
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EC/ARAB STATE DIALOGUE. WE ARE INFORMED THAT CALLAGHAN INDICATED THAT "A CERTAIN COORDINATED ARRANGEMENT" SHOULD BE WORKED OUT WITH THE US ON THIS ISSUE BEFORE RPT BEFORE THE EC NINE AMBASSADORS DELIVER THEIR AIDE MEMOIRES TO THE NINETEEN ARAB CAPITALS PLUS SOMALIA. AT THE BRIEFING GIVEN TO THE SEVEN OTHER EC AMBASSADORS IN BONN ON THE CALLAGHAN VISIT, BY VAN WELL AND BRITISH AMBASSADOR HENDERSON, WE UNDERSTAND THAT CONFUSION AND DISAGREEMENT AROSE BETWEEN THE BRITISH AND GERMAN BRIEFERS CONCERNING EXACTLY WHAT CALLAGHAN MEANT BY A "CERTAIN COORDINATED ARRANGEMENT."

5. CALLAGHAN EMPHASIZED THAT THE BRITISH WERE PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE FULLY IN EC POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS BUT SAID THAT ADEQUATE ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONSULTATION WITH THE US WOULD HAVE TO BE WORKED OUT ON THESE ISSUES.

6. EC RENEGOTIATION

OUR SOURCE SAID CALLAGHAN ESSENTIALLY REAFFIRMED THE LABOR PARTY POSITION IN THE ELECTION MANIFESTO AND GOVERNMENT DECLARATION, BUT EMPHASIZED THAT THE BRITISH WERE ENTERING ON "EC RENEGOTIATION" IN AN OPEN-MINDED WAY. HE SAID RENEGOTIATION SHOULD BE CARRIED ON AT LEAST INITIALLY IN THE COMMUNITY INSTITUTIONS. SHOULD THESE TALKS LEAD TO A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION, SO MUCH THE BETTER. ONLY IF A SOLUTION WAS NOT FOUND, THEN IN THE EXTREME CASE, WOULD THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT RAISE THE MEMBERSHIP QUESTION. CALLAGHAN SAID THE MAJORITY OF HIS PARTY WERE PRESENTLY ANTI-MARKETEER. CALLAGHAN SAID HE WAS NEITHER PRO NOR ANTI-MARKETEER BUT WOULD MAKE HIS JUDGMENTS AFTER SEEING THE RESULTS.

7. CALLAGHAN SHED LITTLE LIGHT ON SPECIFIC BRITISH DEMANDS. HE DID LITTLE MORE THAN REFER TO THE QUESTIONS OF FINANCE, AGRICULTURE, ACCESS FROM THIRD MARKETS AND THE REGIONAL FUND. CALLAGHAN SAID THE BRITISH WERE NOT YET READY TO TAKE A POSITION ON THESE ISSUES AS THEY HAD NOT YET BEEN FULLY STUDIED. ACCORDINGLY, THE REGIONAL FUND WILL NOT BE DISCUSSED AT THE APRIL 1-2 EC COUNCIL MEETING, WHICH CALLAGHAN WILL ATTEND. HE SAID THE BRITISH PRESENTLY ARE PREPARING POSITION PAPERS ON THE SPECIFIC ECONOMIC ISSUES AND PREDICTED
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"A HOT SUMMER OF NEGOTIATION."

8. FRENCH-GERMAN-BRITISH RELATIONS

CALLAGHAN SAID THAT HE CONSIDERED FRANCO-GERMAN RELATIONS TO BE THE VITAL CORE OF EUROPEAN COOPERATION AND ASSURED SCHEEL THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WOULD BE

CAREFUL TO AVOID ANY STEPS THAT MIGHT DISTURB THAT RELATIONSHIP. HE REFERRED TO THE NEED FOR GOOD ANGLO-FRENCH RELATIONS ONLY IN PASSING.

9. NATO

BOTH CALLAGHAN AND SCHEEL MADE A PARTICULARLY STRONG POINT OF THE IMPORTANCE OF NATO AND THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE AS AN INSTRUMENT OF BOTH DEFENSE AND DETENTE. CALLAGHAN SAID IT WOULD BE MOST IMPROPER TO LET THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY DATE GO BY WITHOUT SUITABLE COMMEMORATION. CALLAGHAN EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ATLANTIC DECLARATION AND WONDERED IF IT COULDN'T BE SIGNED "IN APRIL" AND IN CONNECTION WITH THE NATO ANNIVERSARY, AT THE LEVEL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS. SCHEEL SAID HE AGREED TO THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMEMORATING THE ANNIVERSARY BUT WONDERED IF THE US WOULD BE PREPSIGN THE DECLARATION IN VIEW OF THE AMERICAN DEMANDS FOR "ORGANIC CONSULTATIVE ARRANGEMENTS." OUR SOURCE SAID CALLAGHAN NOTED THAT NATO HAD BEEN IN EXISTENCE FOR TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AND THAT "ORGANIC CONSULTATIVE ARRANGEMENTS" NEED NOT BE EMBODIED IN THE ATLANTIC DECLARATION. SCHEEL DESCRIBED THE SECRETARY'S STATEMENT TO VON STADEN ON "THE THREE OPTIONS." CALLAGHAN SAID THAT, IF TO HIS REGRET IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO COMPLETE THE DECLARATION IN TIME FOR THE ANNIVERSARY, THEN SOME OTHER TYPE OF CELEBRATION SHOULD BE PREPARED; HE DID NOT SPECIFY THE PLACE OR LEVEL.

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SCHEEL SAID THE PROPER PROCEDURE WOULD BE FOR SYG LUNS
TO TAKE UP THIS MATTER. SCHEEL SAID HE WOULD MENTION
IT TO SECRETARY KISSINGER MARCH 24 IN BONN.

10. CALLAGHAN DID NOT PRESS ON OR EVEN TALK ABOUT THE
EC DECLARATION, EXCEPT IN CONNECTION WITH THE CONSULTA-
TION PROBLEM.

11. COMMENT: AUTHORITATIVE GERMAN FONOFF OFFICIALS,
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INCLUDING FRANK AND VAN WELL, ARE EXPRESSING THEIR
DEEP CONCERN TO EC AMBASSADORS RESIDENT IN BONN OVER
THE FUTURE OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY. THESE OFFICIALS,
AND EC AMBASSADORS HERE, ARE WORRYING ALOUD OVER THE
POSSIBLE "CRACK-UP OF THE COMMUNITY" DUE TO ALLEGED
UNRECONCILABLE PRESSURES FROM PARIS AND WASHINGTON
AND THE IMPENDING ECONOMIC DEMANDS OF THE NEW BRITISH
GOVERNMENT. THE GERMANS CLAIM TO BE PARTICULARLY
DISTRESSED BY WHAT THEY CONSIDER THE CONFLICTING
"FORMALISTIC" DEMANDS OF PARIS FOR A PURE EC IDENTITY
AND OF WASHINGTON FOR AN "ORGANIC" CONSULTATIVE
MECHANISM.

12. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, THE GERMANS ARE PLEADING
FOR "PRAGMATIC" SOLUTIONS ON CONSULTATIONS AND OTHER
KEY ISSUES. THEY ALSO ARE PLEADING FOR A PERIOD OF
QUIET DIPLOMACY IN WHICH THEY CAN LOBBY FURTHER WITH
THE FRENCH AND OTHER EC PARTNERS; (WE UNDERSTAND MORO
MAY COME TO BONN NEXT WEEK TO MEET WITH SCHEEL).
HILLENBRAND

SECRET

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Message Attributes

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